

Statistical Bulletin

Crime and Justice Series

A National Statistics Publication for Scotland

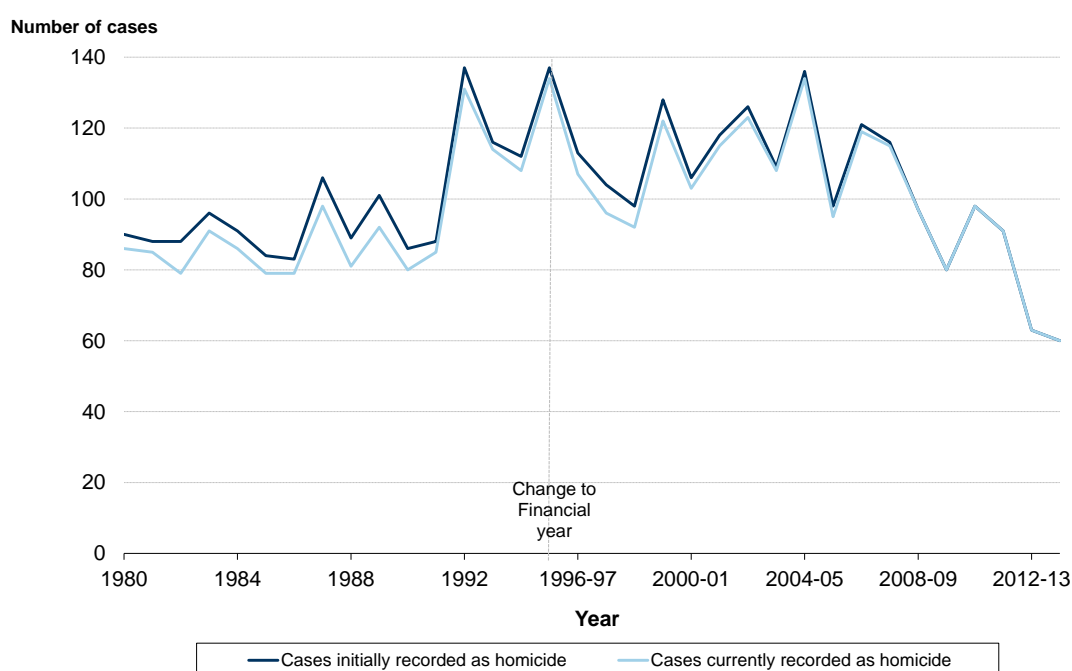


HOMICIDE IN SCOTLAND, 2013-14 9 December 2014

1. Introduction

This bulletin presents statistics on the crimes of homicide recorded by the police in Scotland in the period 2004-05 to 2013-14, incorporating information known as at 9 December 2014. The bulletin includes all crimes of Murder and Culpable homicide (common law) but excludes cases of Causing death by dangerous driving, Causing death by careless driving while under the influence of drink or drugs, Causing death by careless driving, Illegal driver involved in fatal accident and Corporate homicide. Statistics are presented on the number of homicide cases recorded in Scotland, where a single case of homicide is counted for each incident involving Murder or Culpable homicide (common law), irrespective of the number of victims or accused. Victim and accused data are then provided, followed by the circumstances associated with the homicide. Additional details relating to the method, motive and relationship between the victim and the accused are also shown.

Chart 1: Cases initially and currently recorded^{1,2} as homicide by the police, Scotland, 1980 to 1994 then 1995-96 to 2013-14



1. [Note 5.7](#) explains the difference between cases initially and currently recorded as homicide.
2. [Note 5.8](#) explains the break in the series for cases currently recorded as homicide.

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2. Main points

- In 2013-14, Police Scotland recorded 60 cases of homicide, as at 9 December 2014, a slight decrease of 5% (or three cases) from the 63 cases recorded in 2012-13. This the lowest number of cases of homicide reported for a single twelve month period since comparable data from this data collection are available ([Table 1](#)).
- The 60 cases of homicide in 2013-14 involved 61 victims, two fewer victims than in 2012-13. This represented a rate of 11 victims per million population in Scotland, the lowest rate recorded in the ten year period covered by this bulletin ([Table 1](#)).
- In 2013-14, 18 (30%) of the 60 recorded homicide cases took place in the Glasgow City local authority ([Table 2](#)). However, Glasgow City also accounted for 28% of the decrease in the total number of homicide cases across Scotland over the ten-year period covered by this bulletin.
- In 2013-14, 72% of all homicide cases occurred within a residential location, 22% of cases occurred in public places outdoors and 5% of cases occurred in public places indoors ([Table 3](#)).
- In 2013-14, there were 46 male victims, 75% of all homicide victims. The overall homicide rate for males was 18 victims per million population, over three times the rate for females which was five victims per million population ([Table 5](#)).
- In the 60 solved homicide cases recorded in 2013-14, 88 persons have been accused as at 9 December 2014. Of the persons accused of homicide in 2013-14, 84% were male ([Table 6](#)).
- Of all age-sex groups, males aged 21 to 30 years were the most likely to be accused in homicide cases in 2013-14. The accused rate per million population was almost five times greater for 21 to 30 year old males, at 81 accused per million population, compared to the national average of 17 per million population ([Table 6](#)).
- The most common method of killing in each of the last ten years was with a sharp instrument. In 2013-14, a sharp instrument was the main method of killing (where known) of 23 homicide victims (46%), 13 more homicide victims than the second most common main method of killing, which was hitting and kicking. For the definition of a sharp instrument please see [Note 5.10 \(Table 7\)](#).
- In 2013-14, the main accused was known to the victim for 70% of the victims; as an acquaintance (46%), a partner or ex-partner (15%), or a relative (10%) ([Table 8](#)). The relationship was unknown for 15% of those accused of homicide.
- Of the 88 persons accused of homicide in 2013-14, 52% were reported to have been under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs at the time. For 26 (30%) of the

persons accused in homicide cases in 2013-14, it was not known whether they were under the influence of alcohol or drugs ([Table 15](#)).

3. Background

Statistics quoted in this section refer to cases currently recorded as homicide, as at 9 December 2014. A case of homicide refers to one incident and may involve more than one victim and/or accused person.

The statistics on homicides are used to inform [National Outcome 9](#) – ‘we live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger’ as well as [The Strategy for Justice in Scotland](#). These statistics are also used by a wide range of stakeholders to monitor trends, for policy research and development, and for research purposes. The ‘Homicide in Scotland’ statistical bulletin forms part of a series of bulletins produced by the Scottish Government on the criminal justice system.

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 changed the policing landscape in Scotland, replacing the previous eight police forces, the Scottish Police Services Authority and the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency from 1 April 2013. Police Service of Scotland is now responsible for operational policing in Scotland and will be held to account by the Scottish Police Authority. The statistics set out in this bulletin cover the year immediately following the establishment of the Police Service of Scotland (referred to throughout this report as Police Scotland).

This bulletin contains detailed information on the crimes of murder and Culpable homicide (common law). These two crimes are collectively referred to as Homicide in this bulletin. The Scottish Government also publishes the Recorded Crime in Scotland bulletin series that contains data on the Homicide etc. category. The Homicide etc. category contains the crimes of Murder and Culpable homicide (common law), as well as the crimes of Causing death by dangerous driving, Death by careless driving when under influence of drink or drugs, Causing death by careless driving, Illegal driver involved in fatal accident and Corporate homicide.

As the data in this bulletin are collected separately from the data included in the Recorded Crime in Scotland bulletin, the data are extracted from police recording systems at different time points which may result in reclassification of crimes, such as attempted murder to murder, which are not reflected in the Recorded Crime in Scotland bulletin. In this bulletin homicide cases are included against the year in which the incident that led to the homicide is first recorded by the police. This is not necessarily the year in which the victim dies, the year in which the accused is brought to trial for the crime, or the year in which the case is finally disposed of by the courts. This may lead to minor differences between the figures reported in Recorded Crime in Scotland bulletin and this bulletin, as well as those published by the [police](#).

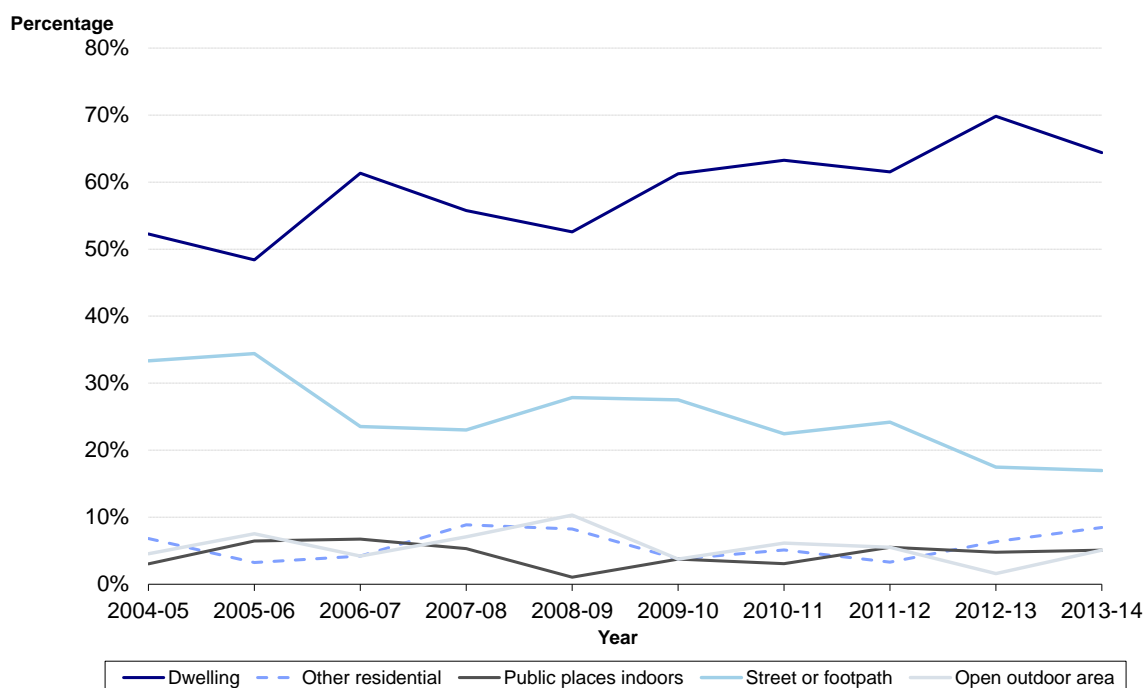
4. Commentary

4.1 Homicide cases (Tables [1](#), [2](#), [3](#) and [4](#), and Charts [1](#), [2](#) and [3](#))

- In 2013-14, the police in Scotland recorded 60 cases of homicide, a slight decrease (-5%) from the 63 cases recorded in 2012-13. This is the lowest number of cases recorded in the ten-year period covered by this bulletin. As at 9 December 2014, no cases of homicide recorded in 2013-14 were unsolved.

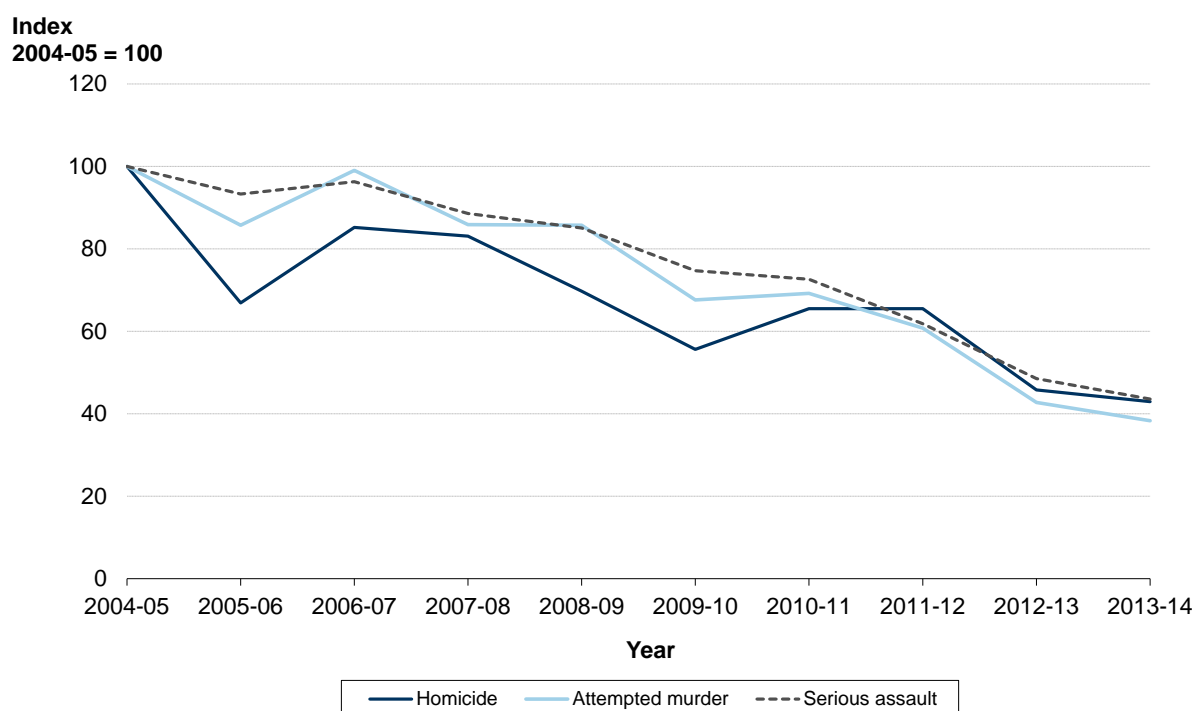
- Homicide cases involving more than one victim remain rare. There was one case involving two victims in 2013-14. In total, there were only ten homicide cases involving multiple victims between 2004-05 and 2013-14. Of the 60 homicide cases recorded in 2013-14, 23% of them involved more than one accused person. There was a total of 88 accused persons connected with the 60 recorded homicide cases.
- [Table 2](#) shows the number of homicide cases in each local authority between 2004-05 and 2013-14. In 2013-14, Glasgow City local authority had the highest number of homicide cases (18). While it is important to note victims may not necessarily reside in the local authority where the homicide took place, Glasgow City has the highest proportion of all homicide cases (30% of the Scottish total in 2013-14), which is more than three times higher its share of the population (9% of the Scottish population in 2013-14). However, Glasgow City has also witnessed the largest fall in the number of cases, more than halving from a ten-year high in 2004-05.
- In 2013-14, the most common location for homicides to occur was within a dwelling (63% of all cases) followed by a street or footpath (17% of all cases). In total, 72% of homicides occurred within a residential location, 22% in outdoor public places and 5% in indoor public places. [Chart 2](#) shows the distribution of homicide cases by location between 2004-05 and 2013-14. Both the number of homicide cases in residential locations and public places have fallen since the start of the ten-year period covered by this bulletin. However, the proportion of homicide cases occurring in residential areas has increased by an average of 1.5 percentage points per year since 2004-05, and the number of homicide cases occurring in outdoor public places decreased by an average of 1.7 percentage points per year.

Chart 2: Location of homicide cases, where known, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14



- Homicide cases recorded by the police make up only a very small proportion of all violent crimes, making up around 0.1% of the selected crimes of violence and common assault reported in [Table 4](#) in 2013-14. This has remained the same over the ten year period covered by this bulletin. It can be seen from [Chart 3](#) that the number of recorded homicides by the police has continued to follow a downward trend over the ten year period from 2004-05 to 2013-14. A similar trend has also been seen for the number of recorded attempted murders and recorded serious assaults. For further information on crimes of violence and common assault please see [Note 5.14](#).

Chart 3: Trends in selected crimes of violence¹, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14 (Index 2004-05 = 100)



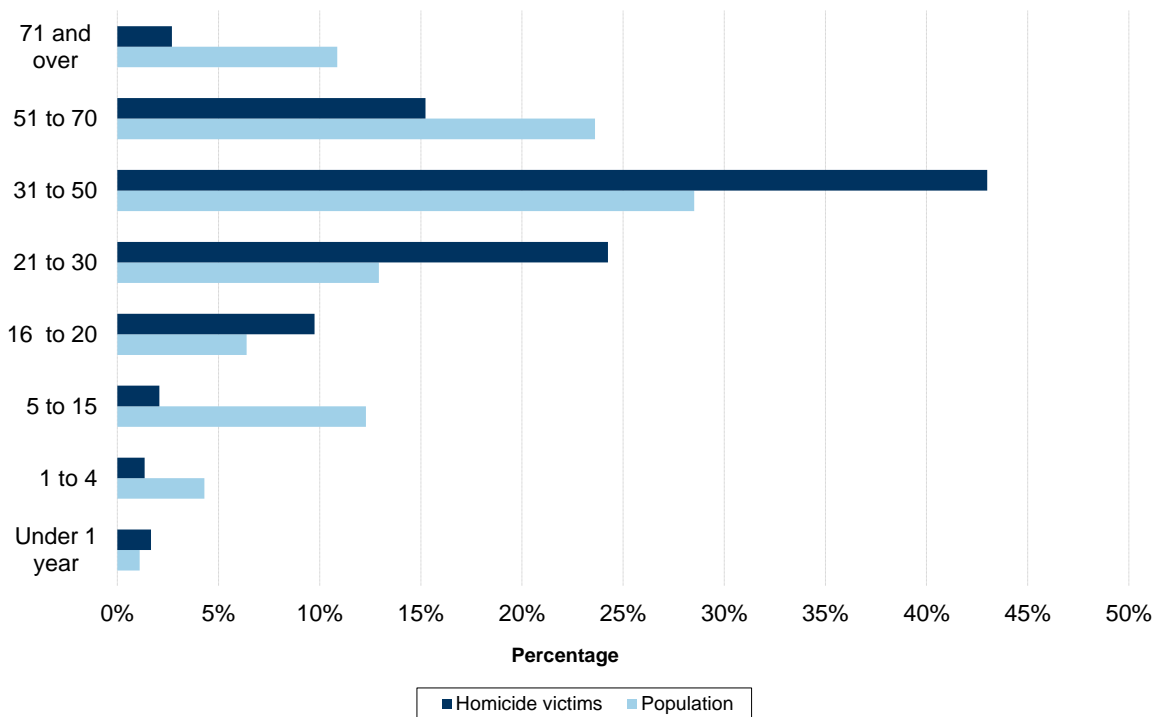
1. The homicide figures provided in this chart are taken from aggregate crime statistics recorded by the police. Due to slight differences in the timing and methods of collection, the aggregated recorded crime figures for homicide may differ slightly from the figures given elsewhere in this bulletin, which are derived from individual returns made in respect of each homicide. For further information on the homicide figures included in this chart please see [Note 5.14](#).

4.2 Victims of homicide ([Table 5](#) and [Charts 4](#) and [5](#))

- In total, there were 61 victims in the 60 homicide cases recorded in 2013-14, two fewer victims than in 2012-13. This represented a rate of 11 victims per million population in Scotland. This is the lowest rate of victims per million population in Scotland in the ten year period covered by this bulletin. The next lowest rate was 12 victims per million population in Scotland reported in 2012-13.
- [Chart 4](#) shows that, although only 29% of the Scottish population across 2004-05 and 2013-14 were aged 31 to 50 years, 43% of all homicide victims were in this age range. In addition, the percentage of homicide victims in the 21 to 30 year age range was greater than the relative percentage of the population by 10

percentage points, and the percentage of homicide victims in the 16 to 20 age range was greater than the relative percentage of the population by four percentage points, between 2004-05 and 2013-14. It can also be seen that the percentage of homicide victims in the older age ranges, 51 years and over, constituted only 18% of all victims in the period 2004-05 to 2013-14 compared to the 35% of the population these age ranges constituted.

Chart 4: Age profile of homicide victims compared to population¹ profile, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

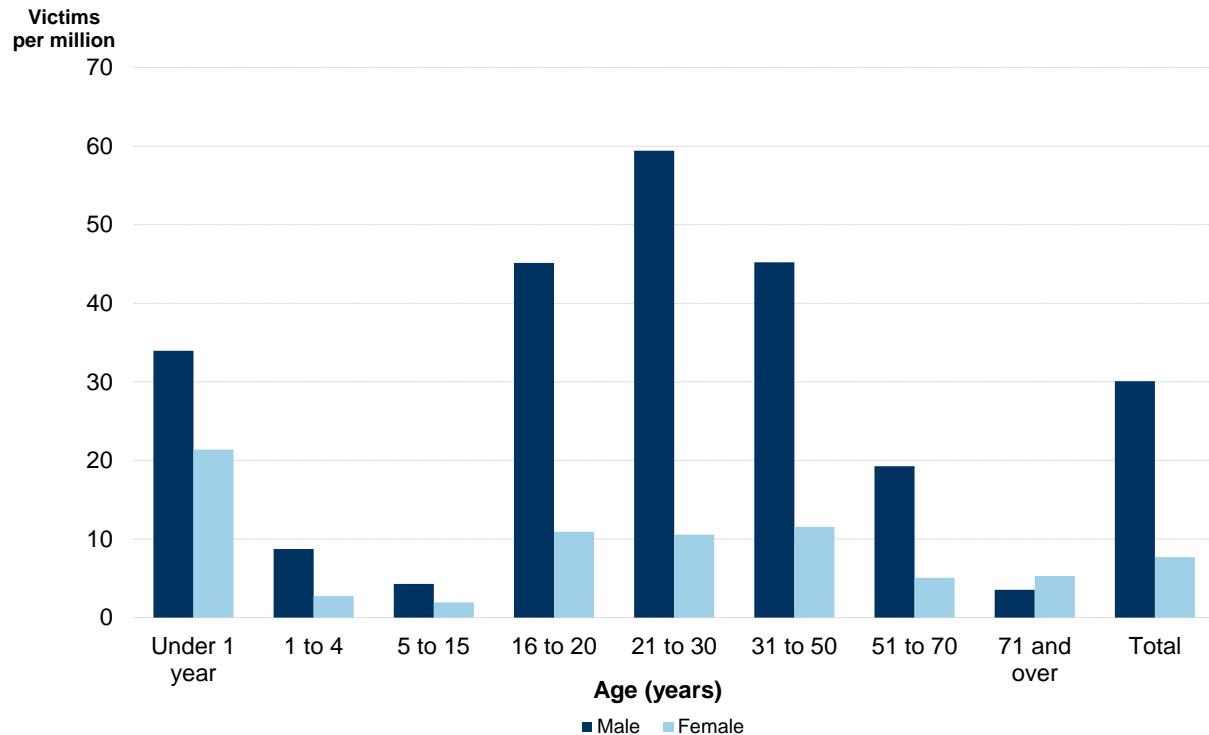


1. Population estimates as at mid-year 2004 to 2013 from the National Records of Scotland. (<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>)

- In 2013-14, there were 46 male victims, 75% of all homicide victims. The overall homicide rate for males was 18 victims per million population, over three times the rate for females which was five victims per million population. For each age range, where both figures are greater than zero, the homicide rate per million population was greater for males than females in 2013-14.
- The highest homicide rates recorded in 2013-14 for males were in the 21 to 30 and the 31 to 50 year age groups, at 42 and 27 victims per million population respectively. The highest rate for females was in the 31 to 50 year age range, at 12 per million population.
- From [Chart 5](#) it can be seen that, cumulatively, over the ten year period from 2004-05 to 2013-14 in all age categories, with the exception of the 71 and over age range, the homicide rate was higher for males than females. For males the highest rate of homicide victims per population was for the age range 21 to 30 years. For this age range as well as the two surrounding age ranges, 16 to 20

years and 31 to 50 years, the per population rates were considerably higher for males than females.

Chart 5: Homicide victims per million population¹ by age and gender, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14



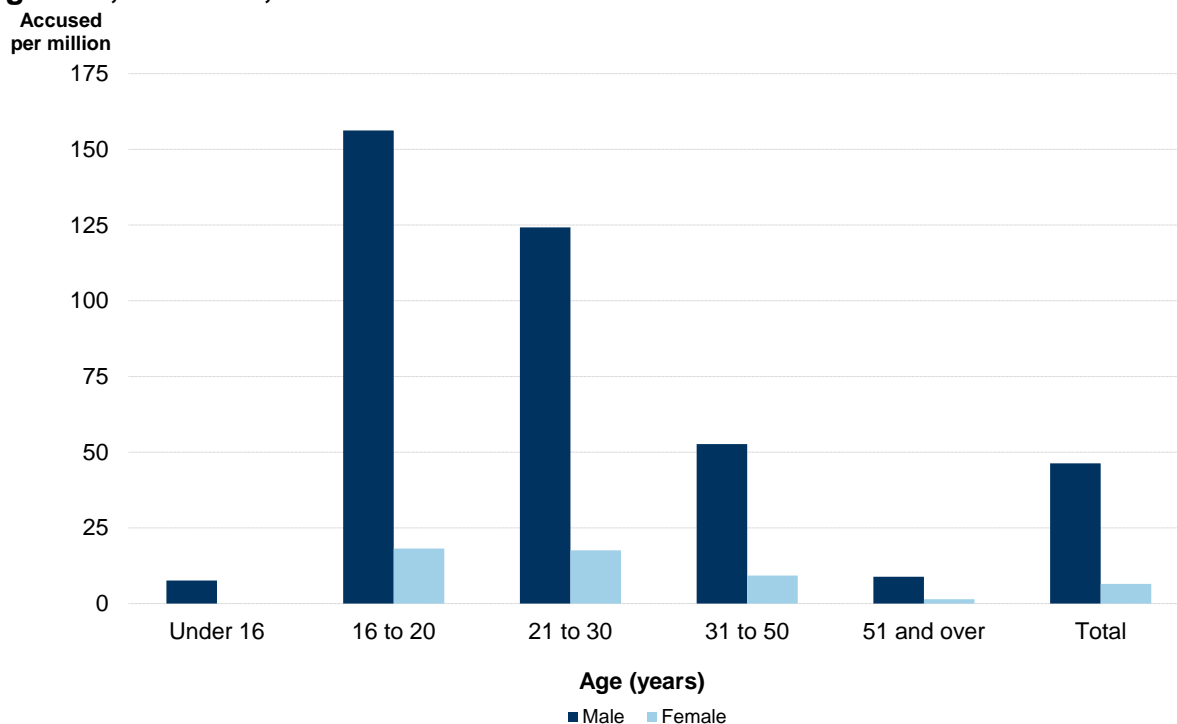
1. Population estimates as at mid-year 2004 to 2013 from the National Records of Scotland. (<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>)

4.3 Persons accused of homicide ([Table 6](#) and [Chart 6](#))

- In the 60 homicide cases recorded in 2013-14, 88 persons have been accused as at 9 December 2014, three more than in 2012-13. The vast majority of accused persons, in each year in the series, have been male. In fact, the proportion of the accused that are male has never fallen below 80% for the last ten years and was 84% in 2013-14.
- In 2013-14, the total number of individuals accused of homicide equated to 17 per million population. This is a slight increase on the ten-year low of 16 per million population in 2012-13.
- The rate of accused males was highest for the 21 to 30 age group, at 81 per million population, followed by males aged 16 to 20 years, at 48 per million population. For females, the 21 to 30 age group at the highest rate of accused people, at 19 per million population.
- [Chart 6](#) shows that amongst all age categories the rates of males accused of homicide per million population were considerably higher than for females in the

period from 2004-05 to 2013-14. During this period, more males in three age groups respectively (16 to 20, 21 to 30 and 31-50) were accused of homicide than the total number of females accused of homicide (i.e. across all age categories).

Chart 6: Person accused of homicide per million population¹ by age and gender, Scotland, 2004-2005 to 2013-14



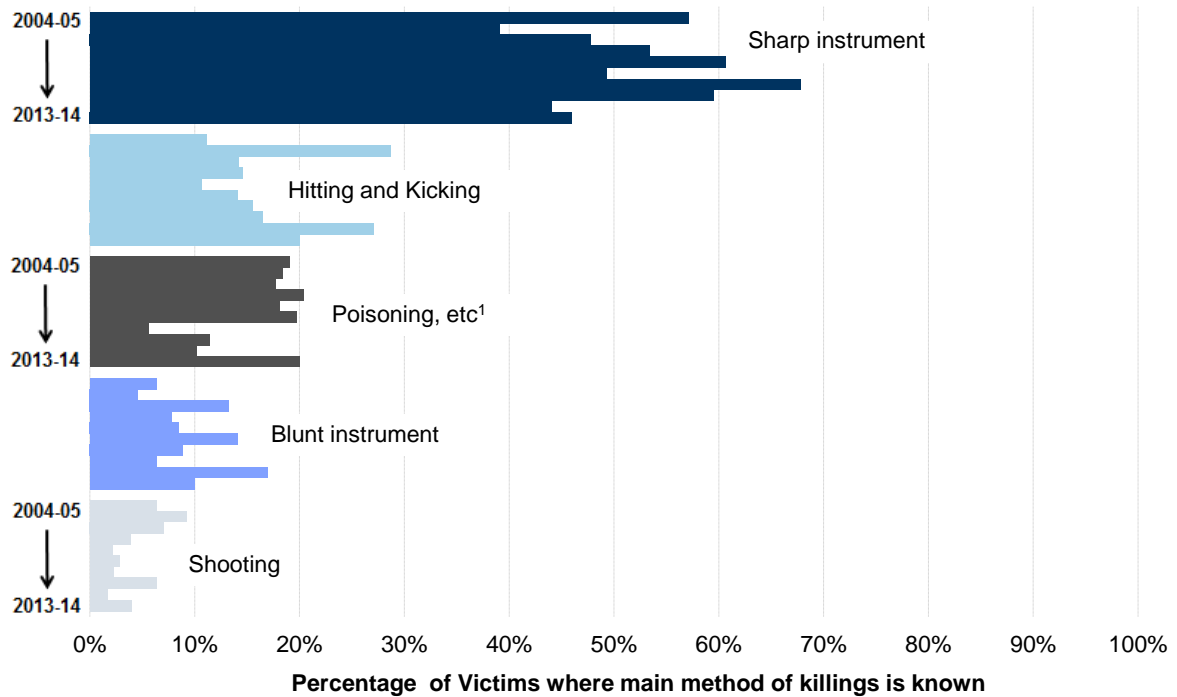
1. Population estimates as at mid-year 2004 to 2013 from the National Records of Scotland. (<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>)

4.4 Method (Table 7 and Charts 7 and 8)

- From [Chart 7](#) it can be seen that the most common main method of killing in each of the last ten years was with a sharp instrument. Of those reported to be killed with a sharp instrument, a knife was predominantly used (78%). For the definition of a sharp instrument please see [Note 5.10](#). Shooting was the main method of killing in a consistently small number of homicides over the period from 2004-05 to 2013-14.
- In 2013-14, a sharp instrument was the main method of killing for 23 (38%) of all homicide victims (and for 46% of victims where the method of killing was known). This accounts for over twice as many homicides as the next most common main method of killing, which in 2013-14 was hitting and kicking. The distribution of the main methods of killing in 2013-14 can be seen in [Chart 8](#).
- Sharp instruments were the most common main method of killing for male victims. Throughout the ten-year period this has been true for females. However, for 2013-14 the main method of killing was unknown for six homicide victims (or 40% of all female victims) as at 9 December 2014. For the nine victims where the

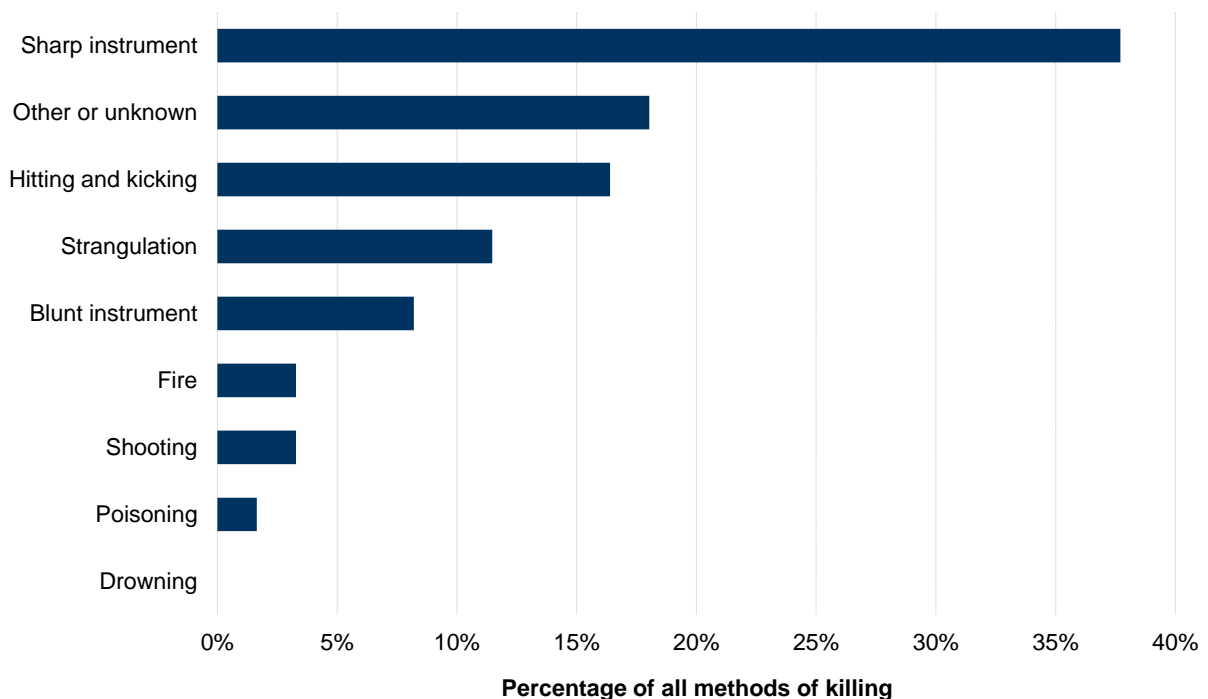
main method of killing was known, three victims were killed with a sharp instrument.

Chart 7: Victims of homicide by main method of killing, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14



1. The poisoning etc. category includes the following main methods of killing: strangulation or asphyxiation, drowning, fire, and poisoning.

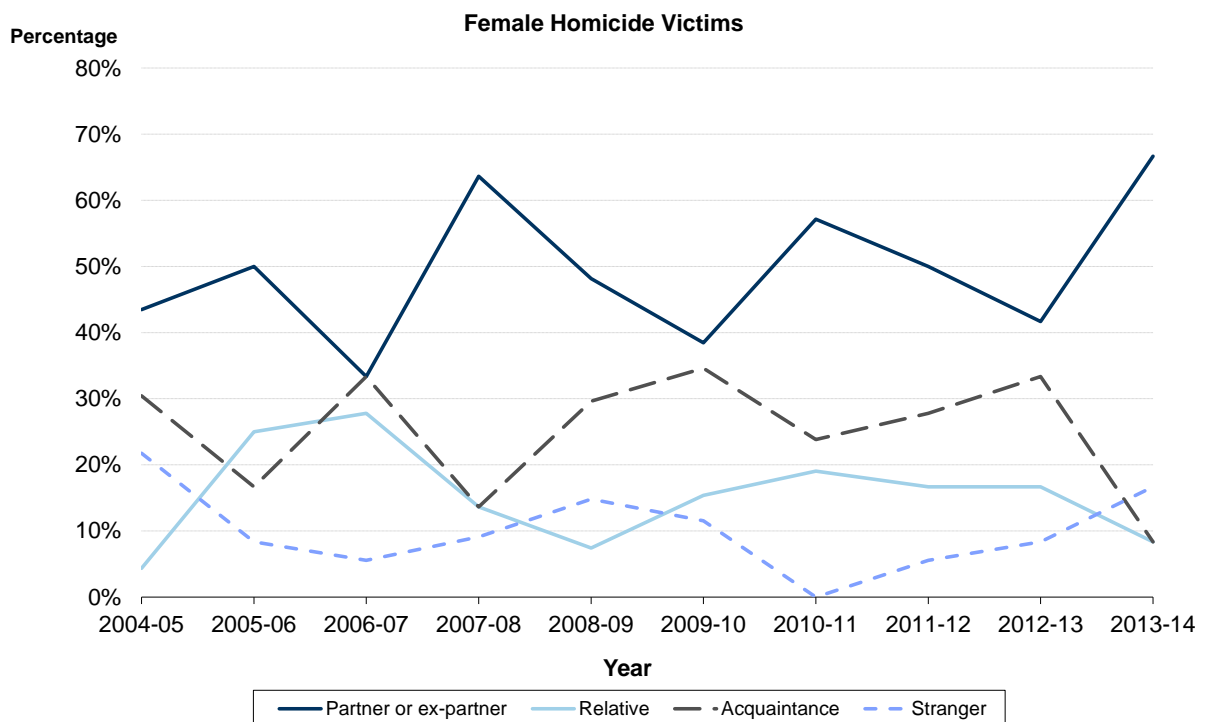
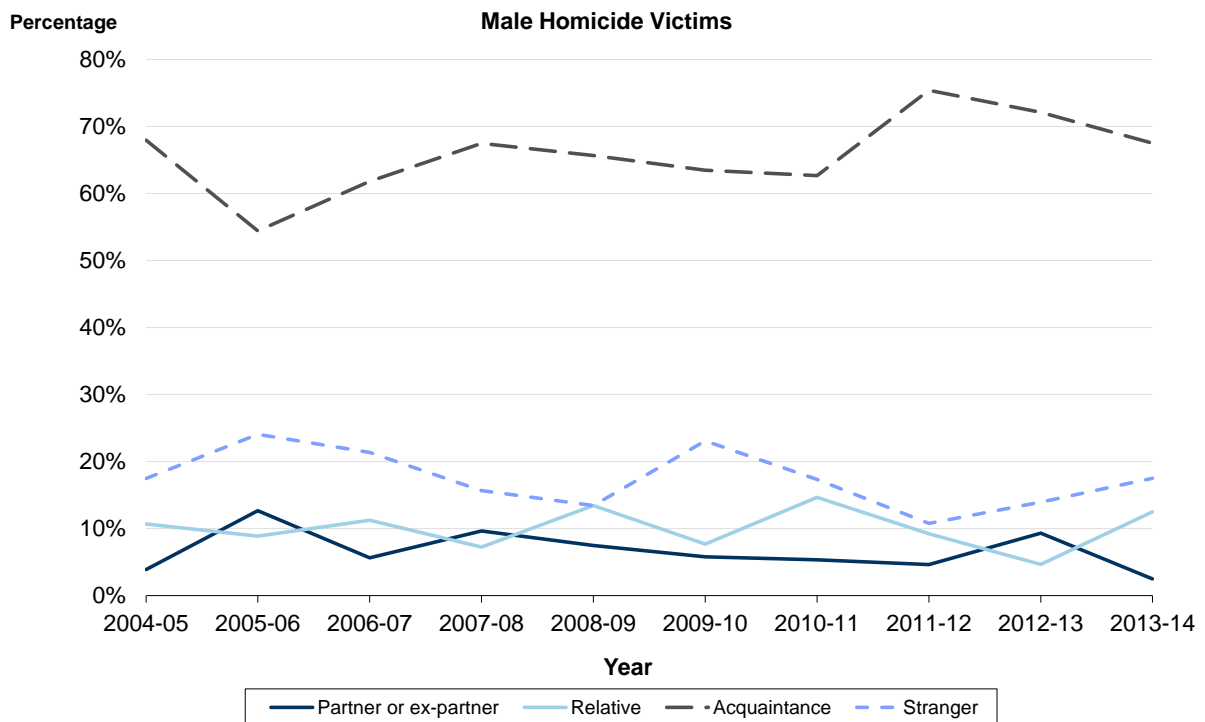
Chart 8: Victims of homicide by main method of killing, Scotland, 2013-14



4.5 Relationship of main accused to victim (Tables [8](#), [9](#), [10](#), and [11](#) and Charts [9](#) and [10](#))

- For 43 (70%) homicide victims in 2013-14, the victim and main accused were known to each other. The victim and accused were not known to each other in nine cases (15%) and in a further nine cases (15%) the relationship status between the victim and accused was unknown. Of those cases where the victim and accused were known to each other, 37% were friends or social acquaintances and 21% were partners or ex-partners.
- [Chart 9](#) presents the trends over the last ten years in the percentage of homicides for male and female victims by their relationship to the main accused. The highest percentage of male victims was consistently those killed by an acquaintance. For female victims the largest percentage was almost always killed by a partner or ex-partner. There are greater fluctuations in the percentage of the relationships of the accused to female victims due to the smaller number of female victims compared to male victims.
- A total of 48 children under the age of 16 years were victims of homicide between 2004-05 and 2013-14. Of these, 60% were killed by one of their parents. For the 16 victims aged under one year old, where there was an accused person, the main accused was nearly always (88%) a parent.
- For all homicides recorded in the last ten years, just over half (52%) of the female victims aged between 16 and 70 years were killed by their partner or ex-partner, 27% were killed by an acquaintance and 9% were killed by a stranger. For male victims aged 16 to 70 years, only 7% were killed by their partner or ex-partner. Just under two thirds (64%) of male victims aged 16 to 70 years were killed by an acquaintance and 16% were killed by a stranger.
- Of the 26 people aged over 70 who were victims of homicide in the ten year period covered by this bulletin, 18 were female and eight were male. Older people were most likely to be killed by either their son or daughter (seven victims) or an acquaintance (six victims). Of the seven victims killed by their son or daughter, six were female.
- The majority of all solved homicide cases (68%) recorded between 2004-05 and 2013-14 involved males killing males. Cases where the main accused and main victim were both female accounted for just 3% of the total number of homicide cases recorded in this period.

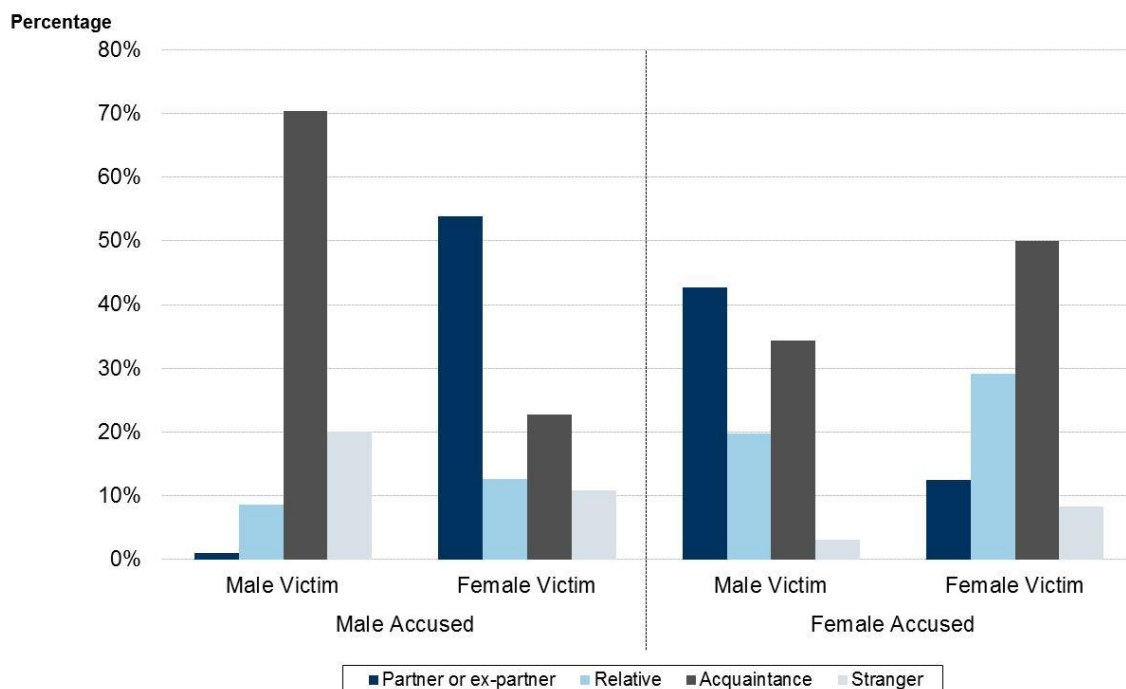
Chart 9: Victims of homicide by gender and relationship to main accused, where relationship known, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14



- [Chart 10](#) shows a breakdown of the relationship, where the relationship is known, between the main accused and victim. In over two thirds of cases (70%) where a male was accused of killing another male, the victim and accused were acquaintances. Around half of females accused of killing another female were acquaintances. In 43% of cases where a female was accused of killing a male, the accused and victim were partners or ex-partners. This was also the

relationship in just over half (54%) of cases where a male was accused of killing a female.

Chart 10: Relationship between main accused and victim, where relationship known, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14



4.6 Main motive (Tables 12, 13 and 14)

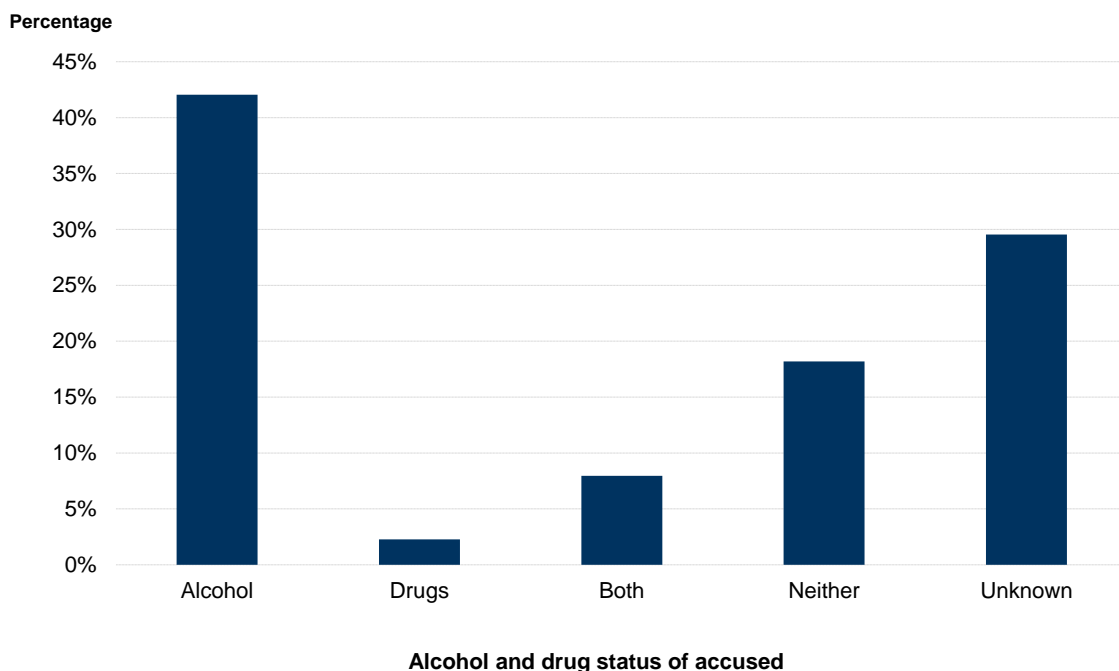
- The most common reasons recorded for committing homicide in the ten year period between 2004-05 and 2013-14, were fight or quarrel, and rage or fury, with just under half (47%) of all victims killed in such circumstances. In 2013-14, this figure was 30 victims (49%), with 22 for whom the main motive was fight or quarrel.
- In 2013-14, the main motive in the killing of 41% of male victims was fight or quarrel. The next most common known motives for killing male victims was rage or fury accounting for 24% of male victims. Due to the small number of female victims of homicide in 2013-14, there is no clear discernible pattern in the main motives of these homicides.
- In the period 2004-05 to 2013-14, 77% of all female victims were killed in dwellings, compared with 53% of males. The most common set of circumstances in which females become victims of homicide are in a dwelling, in a rage or fight with a partner or ex-partner (18% of female victims in solved cases). Location is less of a factor for male victims, whose killings are more typically a result of a rage or fight with an acquaintance (35% of all male victims in solved cases).
- Five victims were reported to have been killed in drug-related homicide cases in 2013-14. Four of the five victims were male. None of the homicides recorded in 2013-14 was reported to have had a homophobic or racial motivation. In all homicide cases over the entire reporting period of this bulletin, 3% of all homicide

cases had a homophobic or racist motivation, and for 6% of cases the motivation was unknown.

4.7 Alcohol and drug status (Tables [15](#), [16](#), and [17](#), and [Chart 11](#))

- More than half (52%) of the total of 88 persons accused in homicide cases in 2013-14 were reported to have been under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs at the time of the homicide. Of these 88, 37 (42%) were under the influence of alcohol, 2 (2%) were under the influence of drugs, and 7 (8%) were both. This represents 74% of accused persons for whom the alcohol and drug status was known.
- In 2013-14, the alcohol and drug status of the accused was unknown for 26 persons, 30% of the total number of accused. This was a decrease of six persons accused of homicide whose alcohol and drug status was unknown in 2012-13. Only 16 accused persons (18%) were reported to have been neither under the influence of alcohol nor drugs at the time of the homicide. The distribution of the alcohol and drug status of persons accused in homicide cases in 2013-14 can be seen in [Chart 11](#).
- In the ten year period between 2004-05 and 2013-14, half (50%) of all accused were reported to have been under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs at the time of the homicide. For males accused it was also half (50%), but for females it was marginally higher at 54%. The pattern across all age groups suggest that for the accused over 16 years of age, the proportion of the accused under the influence of drugs and alcohol falls with age (e.g., 53% of accused aged between 16 to 20 years, falling to 43% for those aged 51 and over). This pattern, though, is driven by the alcohol and drug status of accused men as opposed to accused females.

Chart 11: Alcohol and drug status of homicide accused, Scotland, 2013-14



- In 2013-14, over four fifths (85%) of cases where the main accused was under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, the victim was also known to have been under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Where the main motive for a homicide was a rage or fight, 79% of the main accused, for whom the alcohol and drug status of the accused was known, were under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

4.8 International comparisons of homicide rates

- A number of international organisations, including [Eurostat](#), have attempted to collate international homicide statistics. It is important to note that there are issues surrounding the comparability of international homicide data. There are different definitions of homicide between countries, although definitions vary less than for some other types of crimes. Furthermore, there are differing points in criminal justice systems at which homicides are recorded, i.e. when the offence is discovered or following further investigation. The Eurostat figures are for completed homicides but, in some countries, the police register any death that cannot immediately be attributed to other causes, as homicide. It may, therefore, be over represented in the statistics.
- During the production of this bulletin it was found that there is a significant lag in the publication of European homicide rates. The most recent Eurostat publication (<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/crime/publications>) covered crime trends up to 2010. This has meant that our traditional comparator source has not changed from last year and is now considered to be out of date. We are now reviewing the choice of comparator data, with a view of providing more relevant comparisons to better benchmark Scotland's homicide statistics in the future.

Table 1: Homicide cases¹ by number of victims and accused persons, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

	Number									
Homicide cases, victims and accused	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Total number of cases	134	95	119	115	97	80	98	91	63	60
Cases by number of victims:										
1	132	95	118	115	95	78	97	90	63	59
2	1	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	1
3	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Total number of victims	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	63	61
Total number of victims per million population²	27	19	23	22	19	16	19	18	12	11
Cases by number of accused:										
1	93	68	90	88	67	53	68	66	45	46
2	27	12	14	16	19	20	19	13	11	8
3	8	6	7	5	5	3	5	6	6	4
4	3	2	5	2	3	1	4	3	-	1
5	1	1	2	-	-	1	1	1	-	-
6	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
unsolved	2	3	1	3	3	1	1	2	1	-
Total number of accused	188	141	169	149	132	121	142	127	85	88

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.

2. Population data are derived from relevant mid-year population estimates prepared by the National Records of Scotland:

<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>.

Table 2: Homicide cases¹ by Local Authority, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Local Authority	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Aberdeen City	5	2	5	4	6	3	1	-	2	1
Aberdeenshire	4	-	2	2	2	3	4	-	2	2
Angus	2	2	-	2	2	3	-	3	1	1
Argyll & Bute	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	2	-
Clackmannanshire	2	-	3	-	1	2	1	-	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	3	3	-	1	2	-	1	1	1	2
Dundee	2	6	3	2	3	3	-	2	6	1
East Ayrshire	-	1	2	-	5	3	1	2	1	2
East Dunbartonshire	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-
East Lothian	1	-	1	1	-	1	3	2	-	1
East Renfrewshire	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	2	-
Edinburgh City	11	9	11	11	4	7	12	7	2	9
Eilean Siar	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Falkirk	2	3	1	3	3	-	1	2	-	-
Fife	3	2	5	7	5	5	3	5	2	4
Glasgow City	39	32	33	30	24	20	26	16	19	18
Highland	4	3	3	6	2	2	4	3	1	1
Inverclyde	2	3	7	7	2	1	1	5	-	2
Midlothian	1	-	1	1	2	2	2	-	-	3
Moray	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	1	2	-
North Ayrshire	3	4	3	3	3	1	4	2	1	2
North Lanarkshire	13	6	10	8	5	3	6	8	5	2
Orkney Islands	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Perth & Kinross	-	-	1	3	2	1	-	5	1	1
Renfrewshire	9	5	4	5	4	5	2	2	5	1
Scottish Borders	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	-	-
Shetland Islands	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
South Ayrshire	3	-	3	1	4	1	1	-	1	-
South Lanarkshire	6	8	9	7	8	3	13	9	1	4
Stirling	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	2	2
West Dunbartonshire	5	1	5	5	3	3	5	4	2	1
West Lothian	7	1	3	5	1	2	2	2	2	-
Scotland	134	95	119	115	97	80	98	91	63	60

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.

Table 3: Location of homicide cases¹, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Location of homicide cases	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Residential	78	48	78	73	59	52	67	59	48	43
House, dwelling etc.	69	45	73	63	51	49	62	56	44	38
Garden of house	2	1	1	3	3	1	1	-	2	2
Close, common stair	5	1	3	5	3	2	4	1	2	3
Hostel, hotel, lodging house	2	1	1	2	2	-	-	2	-	-
Public places indoors	4	6	8	6	1	3	3	5	3	3
Licensed premises	2	2	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Other commercial premises	2	4	3	3	1	2	2	4	2	2
School, hospital, church	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Transport	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Public places outdoors	50	39	33	34	37	25	28	27	12	13
Street or footpath	44	32	28	26	27	22	22	22	11	10
Open outdoor area	6	7	5	8	10	3	6	5	1	3
Unknown	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
All homicide cases	134	95	119	115	97	80	98	91	63	60

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.

Table 4: Selected crimes of violence and common assault recorded by the police¹, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Crime/Offence	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Homicide ²	142	95	121	118	99	79	93	93	65	61
Attempted Murder	828	710	820	711	710	560	573	503	354	317
Serious assault ³	6,775	6,320	6,525	6,000	5,762	5,061	4,920	4,190	3,289	2,951
Robbery	3,736	3,553	3,578	3,064	2,963	2,496	2,557	2,244	1,832	1,499
Abduction ⁴	393	396	381	293	330	277	263	221	230	253
Rape & attempted rape	1,109	1,161	1,123	1,053	963	996	1,131	1,274	1,462	1,808
Sexual assault ⁵	3,470	3,392	3,452	3,502	3,297	3,412	3,220	2,908	3,008	3,405
Common assault ^{3,6}	73,711	72,281	78,167	73,523	74,130	72,212	70,786	69,253	60,955	60,357
Total	90,164	87,908	94,167	88,264	88,254	85,093	83,543	80,686	71,195	70,651
Homicide as a percentage of selected crimes of violence and common assault	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Notes:

1. Violent crime is defined here to be crimes and offences included in the categories shown in the above table. For further information please see [Note 5.14](#).
2. The homicide figures provided in this table are taken from aggregate recorded crime statistics reported by the police and comprise the crimes of Murder and Culpable homicide only. Due to slight differences in the timing and methods of collection, the aggregated crime figures for homicide may differ slightly from the figures given elsewhere in this bulletin, which are derived from individual returns made in respect of each homicide.
3. For the distinction between Serious assault and Common assault please see [Note 5.15](#).
4. Abduction includes the crimes of Child stealing (plagium) and Abduction.
5. Sexual assault includes the following categories of crimes: contact Sexual assault (13 to 15 year old or adult 16+), Sexually coercive conduct (13 to 15 year old or adult 16+), Sexual offences against children under 13 years and Lewd and libidinous practices.
6. Common assault includes the offences of Common assault and Common assault of an emergency worker.

Table 5: Age and gender of homicide victims¹ by rate per million population², Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Age and gender of victim	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
	Number:									
All victims	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	63	61
Under 1 year	4	3	1	2	2	-	3	-	1	-
1 to 4	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	-	-	2
5 to 15	4	1	3	2	2	1	3	3	1	-
16 to 20	12	11	14	14	10	9	14	9	-	1
21 to 30	41	18	36	24	24	18	21	23	13	16
31 to 50	48	48	44	50	47	37	42	39	32	28
51 to 70	21	11	18	18	10	15	15	11	15	13
71 and over	3	2	3	3	3	1	1	8	1	1
Male victims	110	82	100	91	71	55	79	73	51	46
Under 1 year	4	1	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	-
1 to 4	3	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	2
5 to 15	3	1	2	1	2	-	2	2	1	-
16 to 20	9	9	14	12	6	6	12	8	-	-
21 to 30	36	14	31	20	21	16	16	17	12	15
31 to 50	40	44	36	41	33	24	34	31	25	19
51 to 70	15	11	15	15	7	8	12	10	12	10
71 and over	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-	-
Female victims	27	13	20	24	28	27	21	20	12	15
Under 1 year	-	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 4	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
5 to 15	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-
16 to 20	3	2	-	2	4	3	2	1	-	1
21 to 30	5	4	5	4	3	2	5	6	1	1
31 to 50	8	4	8	9	14	13	8	8	7	9
51 to 70	6	-	3	3	3	7	3	1	3	3
71 and over	3	1	2	2	3	1	1	3	1	1
	Rate per million population:									
All victims	27	19	23	22	19	16	19	18	12	11
Under 1 year	75	55	18	35	34	-	51	-	17	-
1 to 4	19	5	5	9	4	4	4	-	-	8
5 to 15	6	2	5	3	3	2	5	5	2	-
16 to 20	37	34	42	42	30	27	41	26	-	3
21 to 30	66	29	56	37	36	26	30	33	18	22
31 to 50	32	32	29	33	31	25	28	26	22	19
51 to 70	18	9	15	15	8	12	12	9	12	10
71 and over	6	4	5	5	5	2	2	14	2	2
Male victims	45	33	40	36	28	22	31	28	20	18
Under 1 year	145	36	-	-	33	-	100	-	33	-
1 to 4	28	9	9	9	9	9	-	-	-	17
5 to 15	9	3	6	3	6	-	6	6	3	-
16 to 20	55	54	84	71	35	35	70	46	-	-
21 to 30	117	45	98	62	63	47	47	49	34	42
31 to 50	55	60	49	56	45	33	47	43	35	27
51 to 70	27	19	26	26	12	13	20	16	19	16
71 and over	-	5	5	5	-	-	-	21	-	-
Female victims	10	5	8	9	10	10	8	7	4	5
Under 1 year	-	76	37	72	34	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 4	10	-	-	9	-	-	9	-	-	-
5 to 15	3	-	3	3	-	3	3	3	-	-
16 to 20	19	12	-	12	24	18	12	6	-	6
21 to 30	16	13	15	12	9	6	14	17	3	3
31 to 50	10	5	10	12	18	17	11	11	9	12
51 to 70	10	-	5	5	5	11	5	2	4	4
71 and over	9	3	6	6	9	3	3	9	3	3

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.
2. Population data are derived from relevant mid-year population estimates prepared by the National Records of Scotland <http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>.

Table 6: Age and gender of persons accused of homicide¹ by rate per million population², Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Age and gender of accu	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 ³	2008-09 ³	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
	Number:									
All accused	188	141	169	149	132	121	142	127	85	88
Under 16	8	4	7	2	3	5	4	3	-	-
16 to 20	35	45	49	32	30	28	34	27	5	8
21 to 30	71	44	60	50	44	44	42	45	38	36
31 to 50	62	44	42	56	48	31	58	46	29	36
51 and over	12	4	11	9	7	13	4	6	13	8
Male accused	169	123	156	131	114	101	114	117	68	74
Under 16	8	4	7	2	3	5	4	3	-	-
16 to 20	33	43	48	26	26	23	26	25	5	8
21 to 30	64	35	54	44	41	39	37	41	30	29
31 to 50	54	38	37	51	37	23	44	42	25	30
51 and over	10	3	10	8	7	11	3	6	8	7
Female accused	19	18	13	18	18	20	28	10	17	14
Under 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 to 20	2	2	1	6	4	5	8	2	-	-
21 to 30	7	9	6	6	3	5	5	4	8	7
31 to 50	8	6	5	5	11	8	14	4	4	6
51 and over	2	1	1	1	-	2	1	-	5	1
	Rate per million population:									
All accused	37	28	33	29	25	23	27	24	16	17
Under 16	9	4	8	2	3	5	4	3	-	-
16 to 20	108	137	149	96	89	83	100	79	15	25
21 to 30	114	70	94	76	66	64	61	64	53	50
31 to 50	41	29	28	37	32	21	39	31	20	25
51 and over	7	2	6	5	4	7	2	3	7	4
Male accused	69	50	63	52	45	40	45	46	26	29
Under 16	17	8	15	4	6	11	9	6	-	-
16 to 20	202	260	288	154	153	135	151	145	30	48
21 to 30	208	112	170	135	123	115	108	118	85	81
31 to 50	74	52	51	70	51	32	61	58	35	42
51 and over	13	4	13	10	9	13	4	7	9	8
Female accused	7	7	5	7	7	7	10	4	6	5
Under 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 to 20	12	12	6	36	24	30	47	12	-	-
21 to 30	22	28	19	18	9	14	14	11	22	19
31 to 50	10	8	6	6	14	11	19	5	5	8
51 and over	2	1	1	1	-	2	1	-	5	1

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.
2. Population data are derived from relevant mid-year population estimates prepared by the National Records of Scotland: <http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>.
3. Two errors have been discovered during the publication of this bulletin. For 2007-08, there is now one less accused in the Under 16 age category and one more in the 31 to 50 category. For 2008-09, there is now one less accused in the Under 16 age category and one more in 21 to 30 category.

Table 7: Victims of homicide¹ by gender and main method of killing², Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

	Number									
Gender of victim and main method of killing	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
All victims	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	63	61
Shooting	8	8	8	4	2	2	2	5	1	2
Sharp instrument	72	34	54	55	57	35	61	47	26	23
Blunt instrument	8	4	15	8	8	10	8	5	10	5
Hitting and kicking	14	25	16	15	10	10	14	13	16	10
Strangulation or asphyxiation	10	4	3	6	5	7	2	1	3	7
Drowning	1	-	1	2	1	-	2	1	-	-
Fire	1	3	3	1	3	4	-	4	-	2
Poisoning (including drugs, gas, CO)	12	9	13	12	8	3	1	3	3	1
Other or unknown	11	8	7	12	5	11	10	14	4	11
Male victims	110	82	100	91	71	55	79	73	51	46
Shooting	8	7	8	4	2	1	2	4	1	2
Sharp instrument	61	31	46	49	49	27	48	38	23	20
Blunt instrument	7	4	11	5	4	7	7	4	8	4
Hitting and kicking	11	23	15	12	5	8	12	11	14	8
Strangulation or asphyxiation	5	3	1	2	1	-	2	1	-	6
Drowning	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
Fire	1	3	2	1	1	3	-	3	-	1
Poisoning (including drugs, gas, CO)	9	8	11	10	6	2	-	2	2	-
Other or unknown	7	3	5	7	3	7	7	9	3	5
Female victims	27	13	20	24	28	27	21	20	12	15
Shooting	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Sharp instrument	11	3	8	6	8	8	13	9	3	3
Blunt instrument	1	-	4	3	4	3	1	1	2	1
Hitting and kicking	3	2	1	3	5	2	2	2	2	2
Strangulation or asphyxiation	5	1	2	4	4	7	-	-	3	1
Drowning	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
Fire	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	1	-	1
Poisoning (including drugs, gas, CO)	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Other or unknown	4	5	2	5	2	4	3	5	1	6

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.
2. For further information on the main method of killing please see [Note 5.10](#).

Table 8: Relationship¹ of main homicide accused² to victim by gender of victims, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Gender of victim and relationship of main accused to victim	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
All victims	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	63	61
All victims - solved cases	135	92	119	112	96	81	99	89	62	61
Son or daughter	1	5	5	5	1	4	4	5	2	2
Parent	6	2	2	2	6	1	7	2	2	2
Partner or ex-partner	14	16	11	22	18	13	16	12	9	9
Other relative	5	3	8	2	4	3	4	2	-	2
Acquaintance:										
Friend or social acquaintance	40	20	34	32	33	31	36	35	25	16
Business or criminal associate	5	3	3	4	-	1	-	3	1	2
Rival gang member	6	2	5	2	3	1	2	2	-	-
Other known person	26	20	19	21	16	9	14	14	9	10
Stranger:										
Victim known to accused	6	2	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
Victim unknown to accused	17	18	20	13	11	14	13	8	7	9
Unknown	9	1	12	7	2	3	3	6	7	9
Male victims - solved cases	108	80	99	89	68	54	78	70	50	46
Son or daughter	1	4	2	4	1	-	2	3	-	1
Parent	5	1	1	-	4	1	5	2	2	2
Partner or ex-partner	4	10	5	8	5	3	4	3	4	1
Other relative	5	2	7	2	4	3	4	1	-	2
Acquaintance:										
Friend or social acquaintance	34	19	31	30	27	25	32	33	21	16
Business or criminal associate	5	3	3	4	-	1	-	2	1	2
Rival gang member	6	2	5	2	3	1	2	2	-	-
Other known person	25	19	16	20	14	6	13	12	9	9
Stranger:										
Victim known to accused	5	2	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
Victim unknown to accused	13	17	19	11	7	11	13	7	6	7
Unknown	5	1	10	6	1	2	3	5	7	6
Female victims - solved cases	27	12	20	23	28	27	21	19	12	15
Son or daughter	-	1	3	1	-	4	2	2	2	1
Parent	1	1	1	2	2	-	2	-	-	-
Partner or ex-partner	10	6	6	14	13	10	12	9	5	8
Other relative	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Acquaintance:										
Friend or social acquaintance	6	1	3	2	6	6	4	2	4	-
Business or criminal associate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Rival gang member	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other known person	1	1	3	1	2	3	1	2	-	1
Stranger:										
Victim known to accused	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim unknown to accused	4	1	1	2	4	3	-	1	1	2
Unknown	4	-	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	3

Notes:

1. For further information on the relationship between the main accused and the victim please see [Note 5.11](#).

2. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.

Table 9: Relationship¹ of main homicide accused² to victim by age and gender of victims, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Age and gender of victim	Relationship of main accused to victim							Number
	Son or daughter	Parent	Partner or ex-partner	Other relative	Acquaintance	Stranger	Unknown	Total
All victims - solved cases	34	32	140	33	505	143	59	946
Under 1 year	-	14	-	1	-	-	1	16
1 to 4	-	9	-	-	3	1	-	13
5 to 15	-	6	-	-	5	7	1	19
16 to 20	-	-	10	1	59	18	6	94
21 to 30	-	2	33	10	130	38	14	227
31 to 50	10	1	73	16	227	51	27	405
51 to 70	17	-	20	4	75	23	7	146
71 and over	7	-	4	1	6	5	3	26
Male victims - solved cases	18	23	47	30	455	123	46	742
Under 1 year	-	9	-	-	-	-	1	10
1 to 4	-	7	-	-	3	-	-	10
5 to 15	-	5	-	-	3	6	-	14
16 to 20	-	-	2	1	51	17	5	76
21 to 30	-	1	12	9	122	37	12	193
31 to 50	7	1	25	16	206	40	22	317
51 to 70	10	-	8	4	66	21	5	114
71 and over	1	-	-	-	4	2	1	8
Female victims - solved cases	16	9	93	3	50	20	13	204
Under 1 year	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	6
1 to 4	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	3
5 to 15	-	1	-	-	2	1	1	5
16 to 20	-	-	8	-	8	1	1	18
21 to 30	-	1	21	1	8	1	2	34
31 to 50	3	-	48	-	21	11	5	88
51 to 70	7	-	12	-	9	2	2	32
71 and over	6	-	4	1	2	3	2	18

Notes:

1. For further information on the relationship between the main accused and the victim please see [Note 5.11](#).
2. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.

Table 10: Relationship¹ of main homicide accused² to victim by gender of victim and main accused, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

		Relationship of main accused to victim					Number
Gender of main accused	Gender of victim	Partner / ex-partner	Relative ³	Acquaintance	Stranger	Not known	Total
All accused	All victims - solved cases	140	99	505	143	59	946
Male	Male - solved cases	6	52	422	120	42	642
	Female - solved cases	90	21	38	18	12	179
Female	Male - solved cases	41	19	33	3	4	100
	Female - solved cases	3	7	12	2	1	25

Notes:

1. For further information on the relationship between the main accused and the victim please see [Note 5.11](#).
2. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.
3. The relative category includes: son or daughter, parent and other relative.

Table 11: Victims of homicide¹ by gender² and relationship of main homicide accused, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Gender of victim and relationship of main accused to victim	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
All victims	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	63	61
All victims - solved cases	135	92	119	112	96	81	99	89	62	61
Son or daughter	1	5	5	5	1	4	4	5	2	2
Parent	6	2	2	2	6	1	7	2	2	2
Partner or ex-partner	14	16	11	22	18	13	16	12	9	9
Other relative	5	3	8	2	4	3	4	2	-	2
Acquaintance:										
Friend or social acquaintance	40	20	34	32	33	31	36	35	25	16
Business or criminal associate	5	3	3	4	-	1	-	3	1	2
Rival gang member	6	2	5	2	3	1	2	2	-	-
Other known person	26	20	19	21	16	9	14	14	9	10
Stranger:										
Victim known to accused	6	2	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
Victim unknown to accused	17	18	20	13	11	14	13	8	7	9
Unknown	9	1	12	7	2	3	3	6	7	9
Male victims - solved cases	108	80	99	89	68	54	78	70	50	46
Son or daughter	1	4	2	4	1	-	2	3	-	1
Parent	5	1	1	-	4	1	5	2	2	2
Partner or ex-partner	4	10	5	8	5	3	4	3	4	1
Other relative	5	2	7	2	4	3	4	1	-	2
Acquaintance:										
Friend or social acquaintance	34	19	31	30	27	25	32	33	21	16
Business or criminal associate	5	3	3	4	-	1	-	2	1	2
Rival gang member	6	2	5	2	3	1	2	2	-	-
Other known person	25	19	16	20	14	6	13	12	9	9
Stranger:										
Victim known to accused	5	2	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
Victim unknown to accused	13	17	19	11	7	11	13	7	6	7
Unknown	5	1	10	6	1	2	3	5	7	6
Female victims - solved cases	27	12	20	23	28	27	21	19	12	15
Son or daughter	-	1	3	1	-	4	2	2	2	1
Parent	1	1	1	2	2	-	2	-	-	-
Partner or ex-partner	10	6	6	14	13	10	12	9	5	8
Other relative	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Acquaintance:										
Friend or social acquaintance	6	1	3	2	6	6	4	2	4	-
Business or criminal associate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Rival gang member	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other known person	1	1	3	1	2	3	1	2	-	1
Stranger:										
Victim known to accused	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim unknown to accused	4	1	1	2	4	3	-	1	1	2
Unknown	4	-	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	3

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.
2. For further information on the relationship between the victim and the accused please see [Note 5.11](#).

Table 12: Relationship¹ of main homicide accused² to victim by gender of victim, main motive³ and location of homicide, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Gender of victim and relationship of main accused to victim by location	Main motive of accused						Number
	Rage or fight ⁴	Jealousy or feud ⁵	Sexual	Financial	Insanity	Other or unknown ⁶	All motives
All victims - solved cases	459	121	16	49	20	281	946
Male victims - solved cases	386	99	7	33	8	209	742
Homicide in dwelling	201	36	3	16	5	134	395
Partner or ex-partner	26	3	2	-	1	13	45
Relative ⁷	24	5	1	1	3	25	59
Acquaintance	138	25	-	11	1	73	248
Stranger	11	1	-	2	-	3	17
Unknown	2	2	-	2	-	20	26
Homicide not in dwelling	184	62	4	17	3	75	345
Partner or ex-partner	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Relative ⁷	4	-	-	-	1	7	12
Acquaintance	117	51	1	5	-	32	206
Stranger	58	10	3	11	2	21	105
Unknown	4	1	-	1	-	14	20
Location unknown	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Partner or ex-partner	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Relative ⁷	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acquaintance	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Stranger	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Female victims - solved cases	73	22	9	16	12	72	204
Homicide in dwelling	57	18	5	11	10	57	158
Partner or ex-partner	36	16	-	3	4	21	80
Relative ⁷	9	-	1	1	5	11	27
Acquaintance	11	2	3	6	1	16	39
Stranger	-	-	1	1	-	1	3
Unknown	1	-	-	-	-	8	9
Homicide not in dwelling	15	4	4	5	2	12	42
Partner or ex-partner	6	2	-	1	1	2	12
Relative ⁷	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Acquaintance	3	1	1	1	1	4	11
Stranger	5	1	3	3	-	4	16
Unknown	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Location unknown	1	-	-	-	-	3	4
Partner or ex-partner	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Relative ⁷	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acquaintance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stranger	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Unknown	1	-	-	-	-	1	2

Notes:

1. For further information on the relationship between the victim and the accused please see [Note 5.11](#).
2. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.
3. For further information on the main motive please see [Note 5.12](#).
4. The rage or fight category includes the motives: rage or fury, and fight or quarrel.
5. The jealousy or feud category includes the motives: jealous and feud or faction rivalry.
6. The other or unknown category includes the motives: contract killing, suicide pact or mercy killing, other and unknown.
7. The relative category includes: son or daughter, parent and other relative.

Table 13: Victims of homicide¹ by gender, where the motive was drug related², Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

	Number									
Drug related motive	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
All victims	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	63	61
All victims - solved cases	135	92	119	112	96	81	99	89	62	61
Drug related - No	107	69	81	85	79	72	82	76	45	53
Drug related - Yes	12	17	22	18	12	6	10	10	10	5
Drug related - Unknown	16	6	16	9	5	3	7	3	7	3
Male victims - solved cases	108	80	99	89	68	54	78	70	50	46
Drug related - No	86	59	66	67	54	45	64	61	36	40
Drug related - Yes	11	15	20	14	11	6	8	7	8	4
Drug related - Unknown	11	6	13	8	3	3	6	2	6	2
Female victims - solved cases	27	12	20	23	28	27	21	19	12	15
Drug related - No	21	10	15	18	25	27	18	15	9	13
Drug related - Yes	1	2	2	4	1	-	2	3	2	1
Drug related - Unknown	5	-	3	1	2	-	1	1	1	1

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.
2. For further information on drug related homicides please see [Note 5.13](#).

Table 14: Victims of homicide¹ where the motive was homophobic or racially motivated, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

	Number									
Homophobic and racially related motive	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
All victims	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	63	61
All victims - solved cases	135	92	119	112	96	81	99	89	62	61
Homophobic motivation										
No	128	91	106	105	93	79	95	85	58	58
Yes	1	-	8	1	-	1	2	2	1	-
Unknown	6	1	5	6	3	1	2	2	3	3
Racial motivation										
No	131	92	107	105	91	80	97	85	61	58
Yes	-	-	7	1	2	-	2	1	-	-
Unknown	4	-	5	6	3	1	-	3	1	3

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.

Table 15: Alcohol and drug status of persons accused of homicide¹, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Alcohol and drug status of accused	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Under the influence of alcohol	50	57	50	33	39	39	52	73	32	37
Under the influence of drugs	16	13	14	13	7	5	7	6	4	2
Under the influence of alcohol and drugs	11	21	15	21	8	15	19	7	2	7
Not under the influence of alcohol or drugs	26	26	20	20	21	19	22	19	15	16
Unknown	85	24	70	62	57	43	42	22	32	26
Total	188	141	169	149	132	121	142	127	85	88

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.

Table 16: Alcohol and drug status of persons accused of homicide¹ by age and gender, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Age and gender of accused	Alcohol and drug status of accused					Number
	Under the influence of alcohol	Under the influence of drugs	Under the influence of alcohol and drugs	Not under the influence of alcohol or drugs nor on drugs	Unknown	Total
All accused	462	87	126	204	463	1,342
Under 16	5	-	2	12	17	36
16 to 20	113	9	34	34	103	293
21 to 30	163	41	46	60	164	474
31 to 50	147	36	42	77	150	452
51 and over	34	1	2	21	29	87
Male accused	402	66	113	180	406	1,167
Under 16	5	-	2	12	17	36
16 to 20	103	8	30	29	93	263
21 to 30	144	33	42	53	142	414
31 to 50	123	24	37	69	128	381
51 and over	27	1	2	17	26	73
Female accused	60	21	13	24	57	175
Under 16	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 to 20	10	1	4	5	10	30
21 to 30	19	8	4	7	22	60
31 to 50	24	12	5	8	22	71
51 and over	7	-	-	4	3	14

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.

Table 17: Alcohol and drug status of homicide victims and accused¹ by main motive², Scotland, 2013-14

Alcohol and drug status of victims and accused	Main motive of accused						Number
	Rage or fight ³	Jealousy or feud ⁴	Sexual	Financial	Insanity	Other or unknown ⁵	All motives
All victims - solved cases	40	3	-	1	1	16	61
Accused under the influence of alcohol	22	-	-	-	-	7	29
Victim under the influence of alcohol	18	-	-	-	-	5	23
Victim under the influence of drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim under the influence of alcohol and drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim not under the influence of alcohol or drugs	2	-	-	-	-	2	4
Unknown	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Accused on drugs	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Victim under the influence of alcohol	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Victim under the influence of drugs	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Victim under influence of alcohol and drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim not under the influence of alcohol or drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accused under the influence of alcohol and drugs	3	1	-	-	-	-	4
Victim under the influence of alcohol	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Victim under the influence of drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim under the influence of alcohol and drugs	2	1	-	-	-	-	3
Victim not under the influence of alcohol or drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accused not under the influence of alcohol or drugs	7	1	-	1	1	1	11
Victim under the influence of alcohol	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Victim under the influence of drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim under the influence of alcohol and drugs	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Victim not under the influence of alcohol or drugs	5	1	-	1	1	-	8
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	7	1	-	-	-	7	15
Victim under the influence of alcohol	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim under the influence of drugs	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Victim under the influence of alcohol and drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim not under the influence of alcohol or drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	7	1	-	-	-	5	13

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 9 December 2014.
2. For further information on the main motive please see [Note 5.12](#).
3. The rage or fight category includes the motives: rage or fury, and fight or quarrel.
4. The jealousy or feud category includes the motives: jealous and feud or faction rivalry.
5. The other or unknown category includes the motives: contract killing, suicide pact or mercy killing, other and unknown.

5. Notes on statistics used in this bulletin

5.1 The figures within this bulletin provide details on cases of homicide. This includes all crimes of either Murder or Culpable homicide (common law) but excludes all cases of Causing death by dangerous driving, Causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs, Causing death by careless driving, Illegal driver involved in fatal accident and Corporate homicide.

5.2 In 2013-14, Police Scotland recorded a total of 43 Crimes of causing death by dangerous driving, Causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs, Causing death by careless driving and Illegal driver involved in fatal accident. The figures are provided in [Table A](#).

Source: Scottish Government, '[Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2013-14](#)' statistical bulletin.

5.3 The Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 came into force on 6 April 2008. This introduced a new offence for convicting an organisation where a gross failure in the way activities have been managed or organised, results in a person's death. This applies to a wide range of organisations across the public and private sectors. In 2013-14, there were two cases of Corporate homicide recorded by the police in Scotland. The figures are provided in [Table A](#).

Source: Scottish Government, '[Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2013-14](#)' statistical bulletin.

5.4 The summary figures presented in this bulletin are derived from information provided by Police Scotland in respect of each case that is recorded as homicide. A homicide case is included against the year in which the incident that led to the homicide is first recorded by the police. This is not necessarily the year in which the victim dies, the year in which the accused is brought to trial for the crime, or the year in which the case is finally disposed of by the courts. This may lead to minor differences between the figures reported in this bulletin and those previously published.

5.5 A single case of homicide is counted for each incident involving murder or culpable homicide irrespective of the number of victims or accused. For the purposes of this bulletin an accused person in a homicide case is defined as:

(i) a person who has been arrested in respect of an offence initially classified as homicide and charged with homicide; or

(ii) a person who is suspected by the police of having committed the offence but is known to have died or committed suicide prior to arrest/being charged.

More than one accused person may be tried for an offence and sometimes no accused person is ever brought to trial. Therefore, the number of accused will not necessarily be the same as the number of homicide cases.

Table A: Driving related homicides and Corporate homicide, Scotland, 2004-05 to 2013-14

Type of Crime	Number									
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Causing death by dangerous driving	21	25	37	23	27	22	17	15	9	17
Death by careless driving while under the influence of drugs/alcohol	2	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	-
Causing death by careless driving	~	~	~	~	3	4	8	11	8	20
Illegal driver involved in fatal accident	~	~	~	~	3	1	2	2	6	6
Corporate homicide	~	~	~	~	1	-	2	-	1	2

~ = The relevant legislations for these categories were implemented in 2008-09.

5.6 Where more than one person is accused of committing a homicide, the main accused is taken as the person who received the severest penalty. If more than one possible main accused is identified, then the first person recorded on the statistical returns that is submitted annually by Police Scotland is selected. Similarly, if a person is accused of killing more than one victim, the main victim is the person for whom the accused received the severest penalty for killing. Where more than one possible main victim can be identified, then the first person recorded on the statistical return is selected as the main victim.

5.7 The figures provided in this bulletin are as known to the Scottish Government as at 9 December 2014. The initial classification of a case as murder or culpable homicide is made by the police. This classification may be altered as a result of decisions taken during the course of criminal proceedings. For example, it may be determined that a homicide did not take place if an accused person is found guilty of a lesser charge in court, such as serious assault; or where it has been concluded by the [Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service \(COPFS\)](#) that a victim actually committed suicide and that no further criminal proceedings are required. Hence, some cases initially classified as homicide will, on the basis of criminal proceedings, no longer be classified as such at a later date. For this reason, and as a result of continual data checking, trend data may differ slightly from year-to-year. In addition, late data returns may occasionally be submitted by Police Scotland which will result in revisions to the next issue of this bulletin.

5.8 It has not been possible to carry out the matching of homicide police returns with court proceedings data since 2006-07 due to data matching issues which have been identified. Consequently, there may be a small overcount of the number of cases currently recorded as homicide as the classification of some cases could have altered as a result of decisions taken during the course of criminal proceedings. This area of work is currently being investigated by Justice Analytical Services and data users will be notified of any resulting outcomes through [ScotStat](#).

5.9 For those cases with multiple accused which are currently recorded as homicide, the co-accused are included in the statistics in this bulletin regardless of whether or not they were ultimately charged with homicide. For example, if the main accused person is found guilty of homicide by the court but the co-accused are found guilty of serious assault then the co-accused continue to be counted as persons accused in cases currently recorded as homicide.

5.10 Only one method of killing has been selected for each victim. The main method is taken to be the most serious of those methods recorded. Methods of killing have been ranked in the following order of priority: shooting, sharp instrument, blunt instrument, hitting and kicking, strangulation or asphyxiation, drowning, fire, poisoning and other or unknown. The term "sharp instrument" includes knives, broken bottles, swords, sharpened screwdrivers and any other pointed or edged weapons. From 2013-14 onwards, it will be possible to separate sharp instruments into knives and other sharp instruments. The main method of "poisoning" includes the use of drugs, gas and carbon monoxide poisoning.

5.11 When considering the relationship of the main accused person to the victim, the term “partner or ex-partner” includes: spouse, separated or divorced spouse, cohabitee, lover, boy/girlfriend and ex-boy/girlfriend.

5.12 The motive behind committing a homicide is as determined by the police. For simplicity of presentation, only one motive for killing is recorded by the police for each accused person.

5.13 In the context of this bulletin “drug-related” is defined as a homicide motivated by a need to obtain drugs or money for drugs, a homicide of a consumer or supplier of drugs, a homicide committed in order to steal proceeds of the drugs trade or a homicide as a consequence of rivalry between users and/or dealers within the drugs trade.

5.14 In the context of [Chart 3](#) and [Table 4](#) of this bulletin, the selected crimes of violence and common assault recorded by the police are defined as:

Homicide -	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Murder• Culpable homicide (common law)
Attempted murder -	Attempted murder
Serious assault -	Serious assault
Robbery -	Robbery and assault with intent to rob
Abduction -	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child stealing (plagium)• Abduction
Rape & attempted rape -	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rape• Attempted rape
Sexual assault -	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact sexual assault (13 to 15 year old or adult 16+)• Sexually coercive conduct (13 to 15 year old or adult 16+)• Sexual offences against children under 13 years• Lewd and libidinous practices
Common assault -	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common assault• Common assault of an emergency worker

5.15 In Scotland, assault is a common law offence. In order to distinguish between serious and common assaults, Police Scotland use a common definition of what a serious assault is, namely:

“An assault or attack in which the victim sustains injury resulting in detention in hospital as an inpatient, for the treatment of that injury, or any of the following injuries whether or not detained in hospital:

- Fractures (the breaking or cracking of a bone. Note – nose is cartilage not bone, so a ‘broken nose’ should not be classified unless it meets one of the other criteria)
- Internal injuries
- Severe concussion
- Lacerations requiring sutures which may lead to impairment or disfigurement
- Any other injury which may lead to impairment or disfigurement.”

5.16 On 1 April 2013, Police Scotland changed their operational practices when reporting on the alcohol status of the accused and victim. Individuals are no longer referred to as being ‘drunk’ and are referred to as ‘being under the influence of alcohol’. It is unclear, at this stage, what, if any, impact this will have on the reporting of the alcohol status of individuals involved in homicide cases.

5.17 The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

The Assessment Report, which was published in June 2011, can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/assessment-report-119---statistics-on-homicide--domestic-abuse--firearm-offences-and-firearm-certificates-recorded-by-the-police-in-scotland.pdf>

5.18 Under the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, the estimated costs of responding to statistical surveys and data collection are to be published.

The estimated cost of compliance for supplying and validating the data for this bulletin is: £2,300.

Details of the calculation methodology are available on the Scottish Government Crime and Justice website at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/costcalculation>

5.19 Homicide statistics for England and Wales are published by the Office for National Statistics in the 'Focus on: Violent Crime and Sexual Offences' statistical bulletin series.

The latest bulletin for England and Wales contained information for the financial year 2012-13 and was published in February 2014. The bulletin can be found at:
<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/focus-on-violent-crime-and-sexual-offences--2012-13/index.html>.

Homicide data for England and Wales for 2013-14 are scheduled for publication in early 2015.

5.20 Population data are derived from relevant mid-year population estimates prepared by the National Records of Scotland:
<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/population/population-estimates/mid-year-population-estimates>. The 2004 to 2011 mid-year population estimates were revised following the 2011 Census. These revised estimates were used in this publication, and may have resulted in slight discrepancies with our previous years' rates.

5.21 Only a limited selection of tables are included in this bulletin. However, further analysis of homicide statistics can be supplied upon request. This includes available information relating to a different time period than that covered in this bulletin. In certain cases, a fee may be charged for additional information. For details of what can be provided, please telephone Justice Analytical Services on 0131 244 5428 or e-mail JusticeAnalysts@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

5.22 The percentage figures given in tables and charts have been independently rounded, so they may not always sum to the relevant sub-totals or totals.

5.23 The following symbols are used throughout the tables in this bulletin:

- = nil
- : = data not available
- ~ = The relevant legislations for these categories were implemented in 2008-09.

A NATIONAL STATISTICS PUBLICATION FOR SCOTLAND

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be interpreted to mean that the statistics: meet identified user needs; are produced, managed and disseminated to high standards; and are explained well.

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Office of the Chief Statistician, Telephone: 0131 244 0442,

e-mail: justiceanalysts@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

How to access background or source data

The data collected for this statistical bulletin:

- are available in more detail through Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics
- are available on the Scottish Government website
- may be made available on request, subject to consideration of legal and ethical factors. Please contact JusticeAnalysts@scotland.gsi.gov.uk for further information.
- cannot be made available by Scottish Government for further analysis as Scottish Government is not the data controller.

Complaints and suggestions

If you are not satisfied with our service or have any comments or suggestions, please write to the Chief Statistician, 3WR, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG, Telephone: (0131) 244 0302, e-mail statistics.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

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